



WELCOME MICHIGAN CHAPTER

**Saluting Our Veterans
from the
Global War on Terror!**



101st Airborne Division Association,
Michigan Chapter



THE MICHIGAN SCREAMING EAGLE

July 15th, 2026
(vol. 6, no.3)

No one left behind!"

Greetings Screaming Eagles,

At the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, Benjamin Franklin was asked by Elizabeth Willing Powell whether the delegates had created a republic or a monarchy. Without hesitation, Franklin replied, "A republic, if you can keep it!" His succinct, legendary response let her know that the delegates had created a republic; its survival depended on the active involvement, civic education, and vigilance of the American citizens. The survival of our democratic republic -our "democratic experiment," was not to be taken for granted. Its survival depended entirely on the active involvement and virtue of its citizens.

What a profound statement -and warning by Benjamin Franklin at this historical moment for our great nation. I think he would be shocked and appalled by what currently has been happening across the country; but then again, maybe not, since his warning was, "*if you can keep it.*" He probably would be very sad and disappointed, however, as the progressive Democratic Party and its' radical left wing's calls for democratic socialism and communism. It's hard to believe their radical rhetoric, positions, and solutions for the people. Can these Marxists and Communists fool the American people? I don't think so ...

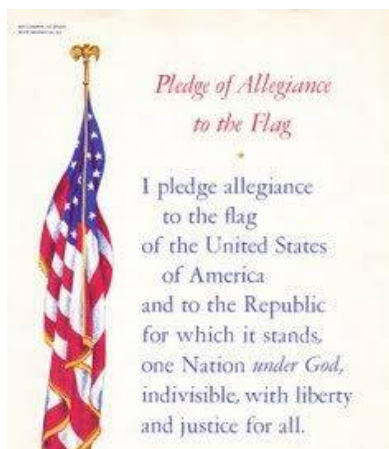


Since our founding, our nation has produced many, many "Great Generations," including -but not limited to, the generation of Colonists who bravely and boldly made their Declaration of

Independence (1776) from the tyrannical and despotic rule of King George III of England and then fought courageously during the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783); the “Great Generation” of men and women who fought in the Civil War (1860-1865) to emancipate the enslaved at a cost of 750,000 to 1,000,000 casualties; the “Great Generation” of men and women that fought in WW I and the “Greatest Generation” of men and women that fought in WWII against the racialized ideology and globalized ambitions of Nazi Germany; and, the “Great Generations” of men and women that fought in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and... and... and...and in the Global War on Terror, and now in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At great cost in blood and treasure, our nation has had many “Great Generations” of sons and daughters who have fought to protect and preserve our cherished liberties, precious freedoms, and unalienable rights. We must all do whatever we can to support the next “Great Generation” as it takes up the fight and concedes nothing -absolutely *nothing*, to the socialists and communists. That is our legacy! and that is what we must pass on to the next generation!

On July 4th, 1776, the colonists made their Declaration of Independence from the Crown. On July 4th, 2026, we celebrated the 250th anniversary of our Independence. Our democratic republic still exists and will continue to do so ...if we decide to keep it!



As we celebrate this year, I would like to say on behalf of all our chapter members and their families -past, present, and future, “Thank you!” for all the sacrifices you made to make it possible to live in a free, open, and democratic society ...“Thank you, America!” And thank you to each and every American Patriot from 1776 through 2026 ...and beyond.

God bless our Commander-in-Chief,
God bless our Armed Forces, and
God bless America!

John C. Sosa, President -Life Member
Michigan Chapter, 101st Airborne Division Association
Airborne...Air Assault!

Keeping the Flame Burning: Increasing Our Chapter's Visibility, Presence, and Relevancy:

by

Patrick B. Kavanaugh, Ph.D., Past President – Life Member

Presidential Citation Certificates

The Presidential Citation is an award given in appreciation and recognition of services rendered to our chapter and/or chapter members. At our 2023 Fenton reunion, the executive committee expanded the practice to recognizing and appreciating those in our local communities who recognize, acknowledge, remember, or otherwise support our Veterans, Soldiers, Families, or POW/MIAs whether it's on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, or throughout the year!

This Certificate expresses our chapter's deep appreciation as it increases our presence, visibility, and relevance in local communities. Do you know, for example:

- a local Priest, Minister, Rabbi, Imam or church synagogue, or mosque in your community that offers prayers -or otherwise supports, our Soldiers and Families, those serving “in harm’s way,” or remembers our POWs and MIAs?
- a local restaurant owner who provides military discounts on Veterans Day or at other times throughout the year?
- a local gas station, oil change facility, or print shop that recognizes the sacrifices made by our Veterans, Soldiers, and their Families?
- a local hotel, Air BNB, or other place of lodging that does likewise?
- a local VAMC or healthcare provider? your local VFW or AL Post? -or,
- any other person, group, or small business owner that you believe respects and recognizes the sacrifices of our Veterans, Soldiers, and Families?

If so, fill in the form below, send it to John C. Sosa, and a “Presidential Citation” will be printed and mailed directly back to you to present to your religious/community leader, small business owner, healthcare provider, or local Veterans group. If you take a picture of the presentation and forward it to me (camsufism@aol.com), it will be published in the next *MSE*.



“Presidential Citation” Certificate Order Form

(Chapter Member Name)

(Phone #)

(e-mail)

(Address & Street)

(City)

(State)

(ZIP)

(Name of Person & Place of Worship/Establishment/Business)

Chapter T-Shirt Order Form

Also, our Michigan Chapter T-shirts are available to all members, at no cost.
Just fill out the T-shirt order form below.



John C. Sosa
President

John C. Malejan
1st Vice President

(Name)

(Phone #)

(e-mail)

(Address & Street)

(City)

(State)

(ZIP)

Size: M L XL 2XL

Color: Blue Red

... and mail to:

John C. Sosa
1569 Mill Street
Lincoln Park, MI 48146-2358

Markers & Milestones:



Received from John C. Malejan, 1st Vice President – Life Member
(From the *Voice of the Angels*, newsletter of the 11th Airborne Div. Assn. (vol. 231; June 2026) – “The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”)

Sacrifice, suffering, and grief is part of war. A nation of families, friends, and citizens mourning the loss of their loved ones need closure in their grieving. They need a place that represents their loss and celebrates the service and sacrifices made that protect their freedoms and liberties. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was established in 1921. The Unknown Soldiers laid to rest represent all missing and unknown service members who made the ultimate sacrifice -they gave their lives and their identities to protect our freedoms. The Tomb is the final resting place for the WW1 Unknown Soldier, and three crypts contain the remains of Unknown Soldiers representing WW11, The Korean War, with an empty crypt dedicated to honoring our nation’s missing. ... **R.I.P.**

Our Michigan chapter salutes the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) who faithfully guards the Tomb, carrying out its sacred duty 24 hours/day, 7 days/week since 1948: “A Soldier is never dead until he is forgotten, and the tomb guards never forget.” ... *We remember!*

Received from (Ms.) Marty Eddy, Michigan Coordinator, National League of POW/MIA Families, Secretary/Treasurer, POW Committee of Michigan
(email: eddypowmia@aol.com) To date, 1,566 Americans remain missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War; 48 of them are from Michigan:



On June 10, 1965, a UH-1B Iroquois (tail number 63-38557) with a crew of four and three passengers took off from Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, on a mission to extract personnel from the Dong Xoai Special Forces Camp, South Vietnam. The camp was under attack, and as the helicopter was disembarking its three passengers at the landing zone, it came under heavy mortar and small arms fire from enemy forces in the area. The helicopter took off and began climbing, but crashed shortly thereafter near Thuan Loi Airfield. One of the passengers radioed that everyone else on board was killed in the crash, and that he was taking heavy mortar and small-arms fire. The crew of another helicopter flying the same mission saw mortar rounds exploding in the area from where the passenger was last heard. Because of enemy activity in the area, a search and rescue mission could not be conducted. The four crew members and three passengers remain unaccounted for.

Captain Bruce Gardner Johnson entered the U.S. Army from Harbor Beach, Michigan and was a member of Detachment SD5891, Headquarters, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. He was a passenger on board the UH-1B when it crashed, and his remains were not recovered. After the incident, the U.S. Army promoted Captain Johnson to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Today, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



On June 11, 1967, a CH-46 Sea Knight (bureau number 150270) took off as lead helicopter in a flight of four (one other CH-46 and two UH-1 Iroquois) on an insertion mission to land a patrol of Marines in hostile territory north of Cam Lo, Quang

Tri Province. Twelve miles west of Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province, the CH-46 took enemy small arms fire while at low altitude, causing it to crash and burn. Personnel in other helicopters in the flight believed that there could have been no survivors. Searchers repeatedly attempted to reach the crash site over the next two weeks but enemy forces prevented them from doing so until June 30, when they found no evidence of survivors and no remains.

Lance Corporal James Willard Kooi, who joined the U.S. Marine Corps from Fruitport, Michigan, served with the 3rd Force Reconnaissance Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. He was aboard the CH-46 when it crashed and burned on June 11, 1967, and his remains could not be immediately recovered. Later searches failed to locate his remains. Today, Lance Corporal Kooi is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



On June 11, 1967, a UH-1D Iroquois (tail number 63-12958, call sign "Bamboo Viper 47") carrying three crew members and two passengers departed Landing Zone Uplift for Qui Nhon Air Field on an operational mission over South Vietnam. The helicopter encountered bad weather, and radioed for assistance in determining his position. A search and rescue (SAR) team was dispatched to lead the helicopter to a safe airfield but could not locate it. The pilot of the Iroquois then radioed that he was out of fuel and was going to make a water landing, but the helicopter was not heard from again. SAR efforts continued for two days but found no signs of the helicopter or any of the passengers or crew.

Sergeant James Raymond Nelson, who joined the U.S. Army from Ludington, Michigan, served with Company C, 227th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. He was the crew chief aboard the Iroquois when it disappeared, and his remains were not recovered. After the incident, the Army promoted SGT Nelson to the rank of Staff Sergeant (SSG). Today, Staff Sergeant Nelson is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



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Chief Warrant Officer 2 Thomas Frederick Riggs, who joined the U.S. Army from Farmington, Michigan, served with Company C, 227th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. He was the pilot of the Iroquois when it disappeared, and his remains were not recovered. After the incident, the Army promoted CW2 Riggs to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 3 (CW3). Today, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Riggs is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**

(NOTE: SSG Nelson and CW3 Riggs went missing in the same incident)



Captain Francis James Feneley entered the U.S. Air Force from Curtis, Michigan and served in the 333rd Tactical Fighter Squadron. On May 11, 1966, he took off in a single-seat F-105D Thunderchief (tail number 62-4293) as the first of two aircraft on a combat mission over enemy targets in North Vietnam. While making a

second strafing pass over the target, Capt. Feneley reported that his aircraft had been hit and that he had a flameout. He began to steer his aircraft out to sea and managed to restart his engine, at which point his wingman noticed a fire aboard Capt. Feneley's aircraft. The Thunderchief began to lose altitude and airspeed, and when Capt. Feneley was over water his wingman observed two objects separate from his aircraft before it crashed and sank into the water near (GC) 48Q XE 678 593. No open parachutes were observed, and no radio or rescue beeper signals were received following the crash. Search and rescue efforts were unsuccessful in locating Capt. Feneley, and he remains unaccounted for. Following the incident, the Air Force promoted Capt Feneley to the rank of Major (Maj). Today, Major Feneley is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**

(PICTURE UNAVAILABLE) On May 14, 1966, an F-4C Phantom II (tail number 64-0760, call sign "Skunk 02") carrying two crew members took off as the second of two aircraft on an armed reconnaissance mission over enemy targets in North Vietnam. During the mission, the flight leader called this Phantom and asked for its altitude, but received no response, so the leader asked for a radio check. The Phantom's crew responded to the check while they were near (GC) 48Q 504 390, and the flight leader continued on the mission. However, as he turned towards the target, the flight leader noticed a white flash that lasted for a few seconds, after which he attempted to locate the Phantom on radar but was unsuccessful. There had been no surface-to-air missile warnings during the mission and no crash was observed. The flight leader continued to search for the Phantom but could not locate it and notified search and rescue aircraft in the area. Other aircraft nearby attempted to reach the Phantom by radio but it never responded, and neither crew member could be located following the aircraft's disappearance.

Captain Donald Lewis King entered the U.S. Air Force from Muskegon, Michigan and served in the 433rd Tactical Fighter Squadron. He was the aircraft commander aboard the F-4C when it was lost and his remains were not recovered. Following the incident, the Air Force promoted Capt King to the rank of Colonel (Col). Today, Colonel King is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



Specialist Four Charles Joseph Cudlike entered the U.S. Army from Detroit, Michigan and was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. On May 18, 1969, he was wounded while fighting the enemy in Thua Tien Province, South Vietnam, and was being evacuated aboard a UH-1 Iroquois (tail number unknown), which, due to enemy fire, had to leave the landing zone quickly before SP4 Cudlike was safely aboard. He was still hanging onto the landing skid as the helicopter took off. The gunner aboard the Iroquois tried to pull him into the helicopter but was unsuccessful, and soon after SP4 Cudlike fell to the ground. His remains could not be recovered at the time of the incident due to the enemy presence, and later attempts to locate him have been unsuccessful. Today, Specialist 4 Cudlike is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



On May 21, 1966, Company C of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division conducted a sweep operation from Landing Zone Hereford in the vicinity of (GC) BR 664 628 in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam as Part of Operation Crazy Horse. The company's mortar platoon was deployed at the landing zone to provide fire support to the rest of the company during the operation. Shortly before 1400 and alone on the landing zone, the mortar platoon came under attack by enemy forces believed to be in company strength and suffered heavy casualties. The survivors of the mortar platoon withdrew to positions on the landing zone that provided better cover.

Sergeant Louis Buckley Jr., who entered the U.S. Army from Detroit, Michigan, served with the Mortar Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 12th Cavalry Regiment. He became separated from his platoon members as they withdrew, and he was last seen moving in a southwesterly direction with blood on his shirt and arm, likely wounded. Shortly after the attack, friendly forces regained control of the landing zone and initiated a search for SGT Buckley, but did not locate him. He remains unaccounted-for. The Army posthumously promoted SGT Buckley to the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC). Today, Sergeant First Class Buckley is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



Private First-Class Earl Francis Seablom, who joined the U.S. Army from Ishpeming, Michigan, was a member of Company D, 34th Engineer Construction Battalion, 79th Engineer Group, 20th Engineer Brigade. On July 18, 1968, he was taking part in a road mine clearing mission in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam. During the clearing, PFC Seablom stepped on a mine, causing it to explode. He was killed instantly, and the nature of his loss made the recovery of his remains impossible. Today, Private First Class Seablom is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



Lieutenant Commander David Scott Greiling entered the U.S. Navy from Hillsdale, Michigan and served in Attack Squadron 82. On July 24, 1968, he

piloted a single-seat A-7A Crusader (bureau number 153253, call sign "Street Car 302") as the leader in a flight of two aircraft on a night combat mission over enemy targets in North Vietnam. While over the target area, LCDR Greiling radioed that he was rolling in to make a run on the target. Shortly thereafter, his wingman observed a large explosion over the target area, after which he was unable to establish radio contact with LCDR Greiling. The wingman made his pass on the target, then searched for LCDR Greiling but could not locate him. Search and rescue efforts the next day were similarly unsuccessful. Following the incident, the Navy promoted LCDR Greiling to the rank of Commander (CDR). Today, Commander Greiling is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**



On July 25, 1967, an F-4C Phantom II (tail number 63-7488, call sign "Maverick 01") with two crew members was the lead aircraft in a flight of two on a nighttime armed reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam. While flying along the coast en route to the target area, the aircraft commander reported that he saw a possible target on the beach and was going to make a rocket pass at it. The number two aircraft observed "Maverick 01" fire a pod of rockets at the target. He then saw a fireball in the water about a mile off the coast and lost contact with "Maverick 01". He saw no parachutes, and detected no rescue beeper signals. The wingman circled the area until he was relieved by a search and rescue (SAR) team, which was unable to locate the downed aircraft or its crew. The SAR effort continued into the next day without success, and the crew of "Maverick 01" was listed as missing.

First Lieutenant Jeremy Michael Jarvis, who joined the U.S. Air Force from Warren, Michigan, was a member of the 390th Tactical Fighter Squadron. He was the pilot of the Phantom when it crashed, and his remains were not recovered. Following the incident, the Air Force promoted 1st Lt Jarvis to the rank of Major. Today, Major Jarvis is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. ... **R.I.P.**

Received from (Ms.) Marty Eddy, Michigan Coordinator, National League of POW/MIA Families, Secretary/Treasurer, POW Committee of Michigan



Lt. Col. David F. Gray (U.S. Air Force, Ret.), a former POW from the Vietnam War and former board member of the National League of Families, passed away on April 13, 2026, in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. Then 1st Lt. Gray was captured on January 23, 1967, while piloting his F4-C on a mission over North Vietnam. He was released on March 4, 1973, during Operation Homecoming. Gray retired from the Air Force in 1993 as a Lt. Col. He served on the Board of Directors of the National League of POW for 20 years and was a sought-after professional vendor (Yankee Air Pirate) at veteran-related events, air shows, etc. for decades. (Here is a link to an article about Lt. Col Gray from the 7-28-2013 Idaho State Journal: [Ex-POW walked the walk: U.S. pilot spent six years as North Vietnam prisoner](#) | [Members](#) | [idahostatejournal.com](#)) Here is a link to his obituary: [Obituary information for David Fletcher Gray Jr.](#)) ... **R.I.P.**

Received from Cal Kirsner, Life Member:



Lt. Col. Fredric L. Spaulding (Ret.), 85, of Indianapolis, passed away December 22, 2025. He was born April 9, 1940, in Indianapolis, Indiana to the late Walter Leon and Victorene C. (Wysong) Spaulding. Fred was a graduate of Thomas Carr Howe High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Army College and later his master's degree from the University of Maryland. Fred proudly served his country in the U.S. Army, June 1958 through June 1987 with nine years being spent in Vietnam. Throughout his military career, he exemplified the finest spirit of the U.S.

fighting man as an Airborne Army Ranger, Pathfinder, Master Parachutist, Raider/Reconnaissance Officer and Special Forces Officer. Fred served in three combat areas, Dominican Republic, Korea and Vietnam. He commanded five rifle companies, two HQ companies, and three Special Forces "A" Teams. He was selected for the United Nations Honor Guard Duty, NCO of the year (1963), and runner up for the Eighth Army NCO of the year. As an officer in Vietnam, Fred was asked to take charge of Firebase Henderson, and "lead the way". This location had been attacked during the night by North Vietnam causing multiple KIA/WIA. Firebase Henderson remained under constant mortar attack and heavy arms fire. During this time, Fred called in effective air strikes and evacuated the wounded. He later returned under fire and recovered all his KIA troops to bring them home. Further in 1970, Fred was selected to plan and coordinate the battle of Firebase Ripcord. Operation Ripcord was one of the last big pushes for the USA to leave Vietnam. He was responsible for all aircraft and fire support during the battle with emphasis on the siege. During this battle, three of the four (OH6A) helicopters were badly damaged and rendered inoperable. The fourth helicopter he used that day was also heavily damaged but was flyable enough to complete his mission of getting all troops out and opening the way for a massive B52 strike. Fred's disregard for his personal safety while under fire to accomplish his mission was in the highest tradition of the credo; "RANGERS LEAD THE WAY".

Lt. Col. Spaulding received numerous awards including Combat Infantryman Badge, the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Flying Cross, Bronze Stars with Valor, Air Medals with Valor, Presidential Unit Citations and Valorous Unit Awards. Fred was a member of the Faith Presbyterian Church, the Army Rangers Society, the Special Forces Association, the American Legion, the National Pathfinders Association, the 82nd Airborne Association, the National Infantry Association and the VFW.

Fred is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Micki (Mihye Shin) Spaulding and one brother, Jon Spaulding. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Leon and Victorene C. (Wysong) Spaulding, two brothers, James Spaulding and Russell Spaulding and three sons, Marshall A Spaulding, Fredrick L. Spaulding Jr, and Jeffrey C Spaulding. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the Military Veterans Hall of Fame. ... **R.I.P.**

Received from (Ms.) Marty Eddy, Michigan Coordinator, National League of POW/MIA Families, Secretary/Treasurer, POW Committee of Michigan
(email: eddypowmia@aol.com)

- U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Terry P. Richardson of Cass City, Michigan was presented with the Medal of Honor by President Trump at the White House on March 2nd, 2026, for his actions on September 14, 1968, during the Vietnam War. Here is a link to his Citation as posted on the Congressional Medal of Honor Society website: [Terry Patrick Richardson | Vietnam War | U.S. Army | Medal of Honor Recipient](#) Richardson left active duty in 1969 but later joined

the Michigan National Guard in 1978, serving until 2008 when he retired as a Command Sergeant Major.

- The 2026 Congressional Medal of Honor Society Convention is slated for September 30th - October 3rd in Detroit, Michigan. It will be the first time these heroes will gather in Detroit, The Arsenal of Democracy. For those interested, here's a link to find out more about the program: [Home - Congressional Medal of Honor Society](#)
- The 2026 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Poster was unveiled during the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Family Update Meeting (FMU) held on February 21st in Charleston, SC. Here is a link on how to order posters: [DPAA Posters](#).



Freedom is not free. It never has been ...

REST EASY, SLEEP WELL MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS.
KNOW THE LINE HAS HELD. YOUR JOB IS DONE.
.... REST EASY. SLEEP WELL.
OTHERS HAVE TAKEN UP WHERE YOU FELL,
.... THE LINE HAS HELD.
PEACE, PEACE, AND FAREWELL.

INSCRIBED ON THE WALL OF
THE VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL

Remembering all Michigan Eagles who Soared during the past year!



... No one left behind!

-From the Livingston County Veterans Services (LCVS) Monthly Newsletter
(July. 2026; ISSUE #28)

Deadline Nears for Tri-Race Bundle: The deadline to register for all three races at a discounted bundle rate is August 14, up until the Melon 5K begins. The Tri-Race Bundle includes:

1. The Melon 5K – August 14, 2026 at 7 p.m.
2. The 9/11 Never Forget 5K – September 12, 2026 at 9 a.m.
3. The Headless Horseman 5K – October 17, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Participants who complete all three races will receive an individual medal for each race plus a striking trifecta medal designed to magnetically connect all three pieces. Proceeds from the 9/11 Never Forget 5K will be used to purchase AEDs for as many local American Legion and VFW Posts as possible after event costs are covered.

Contact: (517) 546-6338
Veterans@livgov.com
1420 Lawson Drive
Howell, MI 48843

Received from the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center:

- We are located at 1006 N. Saginaw St, Holly MI, 48442, Stop in and visit us. We have a new website www.hollyvetcenter.org.
- THE VETERANS CRISIS LINE IS 1-800-273-8255, PRESS 1. Veteran Suicide is a serious matter and we need to bring the numbers down. Buddy checks are a good idea.
- Our Veterans Service officer, Katrina Gramer, Navy veteran, is in the office Monday through Thursday from 8am until 4pm. For claims contact her at 810-623-8002, katrina.gramer@va.gov **Katrina works for the Vietnam Veterans of America, not the VA.** When you come to see the Service Officer, bring your discharge paper DD 214 and any records you think would be helpful.
- The Center is open Tuesday, & Wednesday from 8-3pm. Joe, Army veteran, is in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday. Joe can be reached at 810-348-9960. The Center is also open on Thursday with Mark Walchowski-Air Force, in the office. The email for the Center is havrc1@gmail.com.
- **Services:** Our Center provides a number of services: Help finding housing, employment benefits and much more. We are a place you can come and chat with us. We love to talk with veterans and their families. We have refreshments and treats. We love Volunteers who want to help veterans and their families. Give us a call.
- We will be holding a Community Forum on Homelessness on August 15, 2026, at the American Legion from 10am-1pm. We are looking at this forum as a first step in dealing with homelessness. Anyone from our area is welcome to attend. We will have speakers and then open it up to the public. Working together we

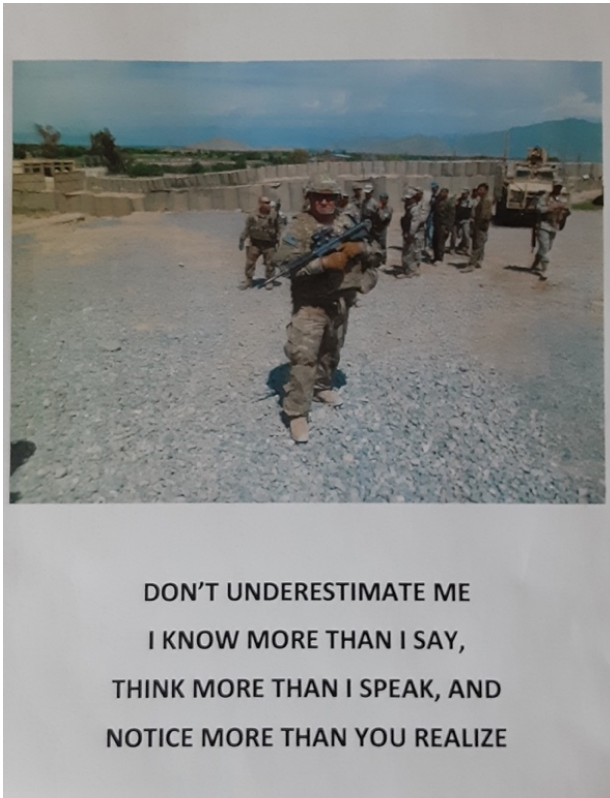
can come up with ideas on how to help homeless people. Together, we can learn what resources are available.

- A reminder: We are holding our Vet-to-Vet Dinners at the American Legion at 408 S. Saginaw St. They are always on the 3rd Monday of the month and starts at 5:30pm. The dinner is free and open to veterans and their families and loved ones. You can bring a dish to pass if you like. We provide the chicken, pop, water, and coffee. Patty Smith is the chairperson of the committee. A pound of coffee donated from Battle Alley Coffee is raffled off at each dinner.
- Karen Healy has done a masterful job putting our library in order. Come in and check us out, books can be checked out. We will be reaching out to the high school to offer services to students. We have 2196 books.
- Vietnam Veterans Moving Memorial, Bluebell Beach in Genesee County July 30, 31, August 1, 2, 2026. Open 24/7.

Received from Max Riekse, Chapter Member (maxriekse@gmail.com)

I am running for the Michigan State Senate (R) in the August 2026 primary in Western Michigan to represent the Counties of Benzie, Manistee, Mason; Muskegon, and Oceana. I entered the 101st ABN DIV in January 1967 at Fort Campbell, KY. My MOS was 13 AP, ART. I was assigned, however, to the 501st ABN INF BN as an infantryman. Later, I was transferred to the 3/506th ABN INF BN which was deployed to Vietnam to reinforce the 1st BDE of the 10th Airborne already there. I was again placed in an infantry company. A friend and I volunteered for the newly formed BN LRRP unit which consisted of two small platoons. We were armed as an Infantry company. We were also the BN's reaction force, hence our nickname "SHOCK FORCE" which was the unit I deployed with to Vietnam for 5-6 months. I then moved around before completing my one-year tour and returned to the 82nd ABN Division at Fort Bragg. I then attended college, spent a year in a Florida SF unit, following which I served 13 years in the Michigan Army National Guard, including time spent as a ROTC instructor at WMU. I have 32 years of service in the Army with 16 jumps – "Airborne All the Way." I am also a retired Michigan public school teacher after having taught for 23 years. Take care ... (PO BOX 823 Fruitport, Michigan 494156)

From the Editor, *MSE*
Submission of Articles:



Please send anything you know, think, or notice that might be of interest to other chapter members ... Send all articles for publication in the *MSE* or any news item for the *Markers & Milestone* Section, to:

The Editor, *MSE*: (email) camsufism@aol.com.

All articles and contributions should be in a text file like Microsoft Word and be “copy ready” so they can be edited, if necessary. ... Thank you!

Print Schedule:

1st Quarter 2025

January 1st, 2025 -Submission Date

2nd Quarter 2025

April 1st, 2025 -Submission Date

3rd Quarter 2023

July 1st, 2025 -Submission Date

4th Quarter 2025

October 1st, 2025 -Submission Date

Patrick B. Kavanaugh, Ph.D., Editor,
Michigan Screaming Eagle (MSE)
-Life Member

"No one left behind!"

-Donation Form-

Our mission is to establish and maintain our chapter's presence in Michigan's local communities; develop satellite groups and community-based outreach programs for those who have been left behind -our "Lone Eagles;" and, tell the story of the 101st Airborne Division Association to the next generation of young Americans. In so doing, we -at once, contribute to interweaving our core values of *patriotism, equality, liberty, and justice for all* into the social fabric of our local communities, and promote a deep and abiding respect for all who serve our great nation, and for our Flag and all it represents.

Your generous participation in our appeal for donations can help make a significant difference in the lives of those in Michigan's Airborne/Air Assault community who gave and sacrificed so much to protect our individual freedoms, cherished liberties, and preserve our national and individual sovereignty! Life-altering opportunities that might not otherwise exist for them and their families can take place through your compassionate giving and caring.

We are duty-bound to uphold our Oath to the Constitution; we are honor-bound to help and support each other: "I Am My Brothers and Sisters Keeper." Your gift can make a difference in the lives of those who have been left behind! For even greater impact, make your contribution a pledge or recurring gift.

Please fill out the following information and earmark where you want to direct your gift:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell) _____ (Home) _____

Email: _____

*****Please update my information: _____**

CORPORATE GIFTS	LEADERSHIP GIFTS	SUSTAINING GIFTS	_____ GREATEST NEED
_____ \$25,000	_____ \$5,000	_____ \$250	_____ "LONE EAGLE FUND"
_____ \$15,000	_____ \$1,000	_____ \$100	_____ CHAPTER SUPPORT
_____ \$10,000	_____ \$500	_____ \$25	_____ IN MEMORY OF...

Please send your contribution to:

John C. Sosa, Treasurer
1569 Mill Street
Lincoln Park, MI 48146-2358

...Thank You!